

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ADDING OR DROPPING A COMPONENT OF AN OPTICAL SIGNAL the specification of which (check one):

 X is attached hereto; or
 was filed on as Application Serial No.
and was amended on (if applicable);

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; and

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>Filed</u> (Yes) (No)	<u>Priority</u> <u>Claimed</u>
----- None -----			

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

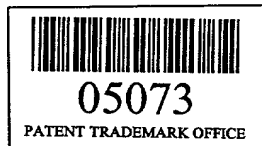
<u>Application Serial Number</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>
-----	None -----

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Application Serial Number</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>	<u>Status (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)</u>
-----	None -----	-----

I hereby appoint the following as my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and to file and prosecute any international patent applications filed thereon before any international authorities:

The practitioners at Customer Number



all of the firm of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Send Correspondence To:
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Baker Botts L.L.P.
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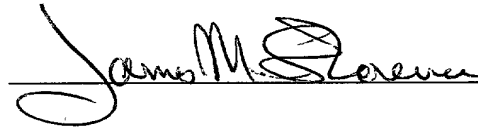
Direct Telephone Calls To :
T. Murray Smith
at 214.953.6684
Atty. Docket No. 069078.0110

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Full name of sole inventor

James M. Florence

Inventor's signature



Date

9 Jan 2002

Residence (City, County, State)

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Citizenship

United States of America

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